

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION Washington, DC 20463

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SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM

December 7, 1998

TO:

The Commission

FROM:

Lawrence M. Noble

General Counsel

Lois G. Lerner

Associate General Counsel

BY:

F. Andrew Turley

Supervisory Attorney

Central Enforcement Docket

SUBJECT:

MUR 4819: Request For Extension Of Time To Respond

(Missourians for Kit Bond)

I. BACKGROUND

Joseph Carmichael, Chairman of the Missouri State Democratic Committee, filed the complaint in this case on October 13, 1998 (Attachment 1). This office forwarded notification letters to all respondents on October 20, 1998. On November 3, 1998, David Israelite, Sen. Bond's campaign manager, filed a written request by fax for a 30 day extension of time in which to respond. This request was accompanied by a Designation of Counsel form naming Brian Lewis, NRSC Deputy General Counsel, as counsel for Missourians for Kit Bond. This office contacted Mr. Israelite by phone regarding a discrepancy in the Designation of Counsel, which was resolved and resubmitted by Sen. Bond on November 12, 1998. Pursuant to this Office's authority to grant extensions of up to 30 days for good cause, we granted the extension request until December 6, 1998 (Attachment 2).

By letter dated, December 4, 1998, and phone call of the same date, Craig Engle, counsel for the NRSC and Brian Lewis' supervisor, requested an additional 17 days in which to respond (Attachment 3). According to Mr. Engle, Mr. Lewis

had been suddenly assigned to an urgent matter involving the NRSC that has interfered with his ability to finalize work on the response to this MUR.

The Office of the General Counsel recommends that the Commission grant the requested extension for the reasons stated by counsel in his December 4, 1998 letter. The respondent and counsel have been reasonably prompt and responsive in their dealings with the Commission. The request does not appear unreasonable or dilatory, and, under the facts presented, appears to have met the requirement for good cause shown for the requested extension.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Grant the respondents' request for an additional 17 days, until December 23, 1998.
- 2. Approve the appropriate letter.

Attachments

- 1. Complaint
- 2. Letter Granting Extension until December 6, 1998
- 3. Request for Extension until December 23, 1998

Staff Assigned: Jennifer Boyt, CED